



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
Denise R. Jaramillo

ALHAMBRA

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

1515 West Mission Road, Alhambra, CA 91803
Phone: 626.943.3330 Fax: 626.943.8050

March 20, 2020

Dear AUSD Parents, Students & Staff,

I hope this letter finds each of you healthy and safe. Today marks the fifth day of our schools being closed for instruction, and with each day that passes, I continue to hear from so many of you who share example after example of the incredible strength, resiliency, and compassion being displayed throughout our community. Please continue to share your stories with me. They are important reminders that even in the hardest of times, kindness and hope prevail.

As promised, I am writing to update you on the happenings within our school district. Last night we all heard the County & State release the new “Safer at Home Order” which is scheduled to be in place through April 19, 2020. Attached is an infographic that explains things we can and cannot do while we all live under this order. Based on guidance received from the Los Angeles County Office of Education, we have extended our AUSD school closure until **May 5, 2020**. Of course this date is subject to change should the County or State extend the “Safer at Home Order.” More to come on this topic.

The County & State continue to identify schools as “essential services”, thus allowing us to serve the much needed daily lunches to our students as well as implement our continuity of instruction/distance learning program. All of this of course is happening under the umbrella of safe social distancing. We are prepared to provide essential services until our schools can once again open their doors to students. Please check our District website (www.ausd.us) or your school site website regularly for updated information.

Although our schools have been closed since last Friday, District staff have been very busy working to ensure that essential services continue for AUSD students. Our Food & Nutrition Services staff have been preparing and distributing daily lunches at school sites throughout the District (note they served over 5000 lunches this week); teachers have been planning their distance learning lessons and began reaching out to students yesterday to introduce the new platform so that instruction is ready to begin next week; and staff at each of our schools have been preparing chromebooks for next week’s distribution to students who may need to borrow one until our schools reopen. These are just a few examples of the work being done.

We continue to receive many questions on topics to which we do not currently have complete answers. For example: What will happen with graduation? How will colleges & universities view distance learning? Will there be opportunities in summer school for students to make up some missed learning time? And so many more. Know that we are engaged in daily conversations with County and State officials to help us find answers to these and other important questions, as well as to advocate on behalf of our students so that equitable solutions are developed to meet the unique needs of all. Thank you for allowing us the space we need as we find answers to these important questions.

As of this date, we do not have a diagnosed case of COVID-19 in any of our AUSD schools. That is good news. However, like you, everyday I watch the number of diagnosed cases throughout our community increase, and realize how life has changed rapidly for all of us. Today, we all share the real

concern about our own health & safety, as well as that of our loved ones and our community as a whole. As if this were not enough, many among us are now dealing with a sudden loss of income due to business closure or layoff, and all of the challenges and uncertainty that comes with that. These are hard and scary times. Schools are incredible resources for supporting students and families through hard and scary times. Please contact us if you are in need of assistance and we will do our best to connect you with local resources.

We are all in this together, and together we will find our way through this challenging time. In doing so, we will teach our children some of life's most important lessons; those of working together and resiliency.

Sincerely,



Denise R. Jaramillo, Superintendent

SAFER AT HOME

YOU CAN

- Go to the grocery store and order food delivery
- Get medication or supplies
- Go to the bank or post office
- Call a plumber, electrician, or exterminator
- Go to the gas station or auto repair shop
- Ride public transit, walk, bike, and drive

YOU CAN'T

- Host a gathering larger than 10 people
- Hoard supplies or overbuy
- Go to a bar or club, except to take food to go
- Go to a gym, theatre, bowling alley, arcade, or music venue
- Dine in at a restaurant
- Go to a playground
- Go to a nonessential retail store or mall
- Put seniors or those with underlying health conditions at risk

**** Always practice social distancing and wash your hands**

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/>



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